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Franklin H. Smith.
Roger E. Simmons.
Charles F. Hatch.

*AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC
ENTOMOLOGISTS*

THE twenty-second annual meeting of this association will be held in Boston, Mass., on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 28 and 29, 1909, during the week of the winter meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

For the program to be made up so that it can be included as a part of the official program of the latter association and so that it can be placed in the hands of the members before the meeting it will be necessary for all titles of papers that are to be presented to be in the hands of the Secretary November 15. The length of time desired for each paper should be stated after the title, and attention is called to the action taken at the Chicago meeting whereby the secretary was directed to request members to present each paper within a fifteen minute time limit.

An arrangement has been made whereby the meeting of the Association of Horticultural Inspectors will begin on Monday, December 27, and the meeting of the Entomological Society of America will convene on Thursday and Friday, December 30 and 31, thus preventing duplication in the time of holding these meetings and giving the members an opportunity of attending all the sessions.

It is expected that an extensive exhibit will be made illustrating the New England insect fauna, together with a special display of equipment and devices for rearing and distributing beneficial species, as well as for treating noxious ones in the field.

A large number have already signified their intention of attending the meeting and the local entomologists will spare no pains to make this the most interesting and profitable one that has been held by the association.

DR. W. E. BRITTON,
President
A. F. BURGESS,
Secretary

*THE ROCKEFELLER COMMISSION FOR THE
ERADICATION OF HOOKWORM DISEASE*

MR. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER has given the sum of \$1,000,000 to combat the hookworm disease and has selected a commission to administer the fund which consists of

Dr. William H. Welch, professor of pathology in Johns Hopkins University, president of the American Medical Association.

Dr. Simon Flexner, director of Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

Dr. Ch. Wardell Stiles, chief of the division of zoology, United States Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, discoverer of the prevalence of the disease in America.

Dr. Edwin A. Alderman, president of the University of Virginia.

Dr. David F. Houston, chancellor of Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.

Professor P. P. Claxton, professor of education in the University of Tennessee.

J. Y. Joyner, state superintendent of education in North Carolina and president of the National Educational Association.

Walter H. Page, editor of the *World's Work*.

Dr. H. B. Frissell, principal Hampton Institute.

Frederick T. Gates, one of Mr. Rockefeller's business managers.

Starr J. Murphy, Mr. Rockefeller's counsel in benevolent matters.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

Mr. Rockefeller's letter to the members of the commission is as follows:

NEW YORK, Oct. 26, 1909.

Gentlemen: For many months my representatives have been inquiring into the nature and prevalence of "hookworm disease" and considering plans for mitigating its evils. I have delayed action in this matter only until the facts as to the extent of the disease could be verified and the effectiveness of its cure and prevention demonstrated. The wide distribution and serious effects of this malady, particularly in the rural districts of our southern states, first pointed out by Dr. Charles Wardell Stiles, of the United States Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, have now been confirmed by independent observations of the distinguished investigators and physicians, as well as by educators and public men of the south.

Knowing your interest in all that pertains to the well-being of your fellowmen, and your acquaintance with this subject, I have invited you to a conference in the hope that it may lead to

the adoption of well-considered plans for a co-operative movement of the medical profession, public health officials, boards of trade, churches, schools, the press and other agencies for the cure and prevention of this disease. If you deem it wise to undertake this commission I shall be glad to be permitted to work with you to that end and you may call upon me from time to time for such sums as may be needed during the next five years for carrying on an aggressive campaign, up to a total of one million dollars (\$1,000,000).

While it would be a privilege to act in any movement which offers assurance of relieving human suffering, it is a peculiar pleasure to me to feel that the principal activities of your board will be among the people of our southern states. It has been my pleasure of late to spend a portion of each year in the south and I have come to know and to respect greatly that part of our country and to enjoy the society and friendship of many of its warm-hearted people. It will, therefore, be an added gratification to me if in this way I may in some measure express my appreciation of their many kindnesses and hospitalities.

Very truly,

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER

The reply was signed by all the members of the commission, and was as follows:

NEW YORK, Oct. 26, 1909.

MR. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER,
New York City.

Dear Sir: Your generous offer to pay such sums as may be needed during the next five years up to a total of one million dollars to carry on a scientific and popular campaign for eradicating "hookworm disease" has our heartiest approbation and we accept your invitation to administer this trust with a keen appreciation of the opportunity that you give us to do a great public good. We have to-day taken steps for organization and incorporated for practical work and have named this board the "Rockefeller Commission for the Eradication of Hookworm Disease."

The "hookworm" parasites often so lower the vitality of those who are affected as to retard their physical and mental development, render them more susceptible to other diseases, make labor less efficient, and in the sections where the malady is most prevalent, greatly increase the death rate from consumption, pneumonia, typhoid fever and malaria. It has been shown that the lowered vitality of multitudes long attributed to malaria and climate and seriously affecting eco-

nomic development, is, in fact, largely due in some districts to this parasite.

The disease is by no means confined to any one class; it takes its toll of suffering and death from the highly intelligent and well-to-do as well as from the less fortunate. It is a conservative estimate that two millions of our people are infected by this parasite. The disease is more common and more serious in children of school age than in other persons. Widespread and serious as the infection is, there is a most encouraging outlook. The disease can be easily recognized, readily and effectively treated and by simple and proper sanitary precautions successfully prevented. The undertaking proposed by you is therefore not only full of promise of great benefit, but is eminently definite and practicable. We desire, individually as well as collectively, to thank you for this opportunity to be of service to our fellowmen and we enter upon our task with a deep sense of the responsibility laid upon us.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE National Academy of Sciences will meet at Princeton University, beginning on Tuesday, November 16.

BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY held on October 20 its first congregation for the conferring of honorary degrees. The degree of LL.D. was conferred on Mr. Balfour, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Andrew Carnegie and other distinguished guests, including the following men of science: Sir William Crookes, Sir Archibald Geikie, Sir Joseph Larmor, Sir Douglas Powell, Sir William Ramsay, Lord Rayleigh, Professor Rutherford, Professor Silvanus Thompson, Professor Tilden and Sir J. J. Thomson.

At the meeting of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society, on November 5, the Nichols medal will be awarded to Dr. L. H. Baekeland for his papers on "The Synthesis, Constitution and Industrial Application of Bakelite" and "Soluble and Fusible Resinous Condensation Products of Formaldehyde and Phenol."

MR. SHACKLETON was presented with a gold medal of the Royal Society of Geography at Brussels and a diploma of honorary membership after lecturing before the society on October 20.